

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A closure and container package comprising:
the container having a neck with container threads formed thereon;
the closure including:
a circular disk including a curl formed at a periphery thereof, the disk for disposing
~~disposed~~ on the container neck to form a seal therebetween, and
a band including:
an annular skirt including closure threads formed on an interior surface thereof;
and
plural fins extending inwardly from the skirt, the fins having a first, as-molded
state prior to application of the closure onto the container and a second,
fully applied state in which the fins deformably receive at least a portion
of the curl upon application of the closure onto the container;
whereby in the first state the disk is not tightly secured to the band and in the second
state the fins engage the curl to secure the band to the disk.
2. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein the closure threads engage the
container threads in the fully applied state upon initial application of the closure onto
the container, said thread engagement diminishing upon subsequent thermal treatment
of the package.
3. (original) The package of claim 2 wherein the engagement between the fins and
the curl provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully
applied state.
4. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein a disengagement torque for
disengaging the fins from the curl is less than an unsealing torque for breaking the seal
between the disk and the container neck, whereby upon initial rotation of the closure
from its fully applied state the band disengages from the disk.

5. (original) The package of claim 4 wherein the disengagement torque provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state.
6. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein a disengagement torque for disengaging the fins from the curl is more than an unsealing torque for breaking the seal between the disk and the container neck, whereby upon initial unscrewing of the closure the band and disk are unscrewed substantially together.
7. (original) The package of claim 6 wherein the disengagement torque provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state.
8. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein the band further comprises a ring extending radially inwardly from an upper portion of the skirt over at least a portion of the disk.
9. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein a portion of the fins are non-elastically deformed by the disk curl such that said curl is at least partially embedded in said fins.
10. (original) The package of claim 9 wherein said fins are elastically deformed proximate the non-elastically deformed portions.
11. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein the fins are gussets.
12. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein the fins have a contact surface that is obliquely oriented relative to a longitudinal axis of the container.
13. (original) The package of claim 1 wherein the fins are circumferentially spaced apart and oriented substantially radially.
14. (currently amended) A composite closure comprising:
a circular disk including a curl formed at a periphery thereof, the disk ~~disposed is~~
capable of being positioned on a container neck to form a seal therebetween,
and
a band including:

an annular skirt including closure threads formed on an interior surface thereof;
and

plural fins extending inwardly from the skirt, the fins having a first, as-molded state prior to application of the closure onto the container and a second, fully applied state in which the fins deformably receive at least a portion of the curl upon application of the closure onto a container;

whereby in the first state the disk is not tightly secured to the band and in the second state the fins engage the curl to removably secure the band to the disk.

15. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein the closure threads engage the container threads in the fully applied state upon initial application of the closure onto the container, said thread engagement diminishing upon subsequent thermal treatment of the package.
16. (original) The package of claim 15 wherein the engagement between the fins and the curl provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state.
17. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein a disengagement torque for disengaging the fins from the curl is less than an unsealing torque for breaking the seal between the disk and the container neck, whereby upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state the band disengages from the disk.
18. (original) The package of claim 17 wherein the disengagement torque provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state.
19. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein a disengagement torque for disengaging the fins from the curl is more than an unsealing torque for breaking the seal between the disk and the container neck, whereby upon initial unscrewing of the closure the band and disk are unscrewed substantially together.
20. (original) The package of claim 19 wherein the disengagement torque provides a sensible resistance upon initial rotation of the closure from its fully applied state.

21. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein the band further comprises a ring extending radially inwardly from an upper portion of the skirt over at least a portion of the disk.
22. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein a portion of the fins are non-elastically deformed by the disk curl such that said curl is at least partially embedded in said fins.
23. (original) The package of claim 22 wherein said fins are elastically deformed proximate the non-elastically deformed portions.
24. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein the fins are gussets.
25. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein the fins have a contact surface that is obliquely oriented relative to a longitudinal axis of the container.
26. (original) The package of claim 14 wherein the fins are circumferentially spaced apart and oriented substantially radially.
27. (cancel)
28. (currently amended) ~~The closure of claim 27~~ A composite closure for coupling with a container, comprising:
an insert disk including a curl formed at a periphery thereof; and
a band including:
an annular skirt including threads formed on an interior surface thereof;
a retaining feature extending radially inwardly from the skirt;
a ring extending radially inwardly from an upper portion of the skirt over at least a portion of the disk; and
plural fins extending inwardly from the skirt, the fins and the retaining feature forming a recess therebetween for receiving the disk curl, a contact surface of the fins being nonparallel, in longitudinal cross section, to a closure longitudinal axis;

the closure having a fully tightened position in which the ring contacts the disk, a loose position in which the ring is spaced apart from the disk, and an intermediate tightened position in which the ring is spaced apart from the disk and in which the contact surface urges against the curl, the intermediate tightened position being between the fully tightened position and the loose position,

wherein the fins have a first, as-molded state prior to application of the closure onto the container and a second, fully applied state in which the fins deformably receive at least a portion of the curl upon application of the closure onto the container, whereby the fins engage the curl to removably secure the band to the disk.

29. (new) A composite closure comprising:
- a circular disk including a curl formed at a periphery thereof, the disk capable of being positioned on a container neck to form a seal therebetween, and
 - a band including:
 - an annular skirt including closure threads formed on an interior surface thereof;
 - and
 - contact means located on an interior portion of the skirt, the contact means having a first, as-molded state prior to application of the closure onto a container and a second, fully applied state in which the contact means deformably receive at least a portion of the curl upon application of the closure onto the container;
- whereby in the first state the disk is not tightly secured to the band and in the second state the contact means engage the curl to secure the band to the disk.

30. (new) A composite closure comprising:
- a circular disk including a curl formed at a periphery thereof, the disk is capable of being positioned on a container neck to form a seal therebetween, and
 - a band including:
 - an annular skirt including closure threads formed on an interior surface thereof;
 - and

at least one upper contact member extending inwardly from the skirt, the upper contact member having a contact surface that consists essentially of a downwardly-and-inwardly-facing surface that has a first, as-molded state prior to application of the closure onto the container and a second, fully applied state in which the contact surface deformably receives at least a portion of the curl upon application of the closure onto the container;

whereby in the second state the downwardly-and-inwardly-facing surface engages the curl to secure the band to the disk.

31. (new) The closure of claim 30 wherein the contact member is a bead.
32. (new) The closure of claim 30 wherein the contact member is a gusset.
33. (new) The closure of claim 32 wherein the band includes a ring extending radially inwardly from an upper portion of the skirt, the gusset is connected to the interior surface of the skirt and an lower surface of the ring.